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Letters to the Editor

CIA's Miscalculation No Surprise to Shouse

DAMAGE to the prestige of the United States because of the Cuban fiasco is incalculable.

Substantial portions of that

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of the American taxpayers, almost at the breaking point, would at least be relieved of a burden of unnecessary and unproductive billions.

JOUETT SHOUSE

damage arise from the fact that the Government of this country was at least far from frank in its initial expressions about the invasion. The world was given to understand that the United States had nothing to do with it. Perhaps the statement of the President was legalistically correct. Even so, it created the impression, whether intended or not, that the Administration had no part in the invasion or advance knowledge of it.

Now it develops that a branch of our Government which is permitted to expend each year an enormous undisclosed sum of the money of the taxpayers, was not only the prime mover in the invasion but had the matter in hand for over a year.

To those familiar with the Central Intelligence Agency it is not surprising that it fathered the expedition or that the latter was based on miscalculation. In instance after instance these past several years this hush-hush agency has demonstrated absolute ignorance of the activities and attitudes of various foreign countries, even though it has spent billions to secure alleged information for the use or protection of our Government.

If the doors of the CIA were padlocked and its hordes of employees removed from the payroll which they encumber, this country would be as safe, in all probability, as it now is, and the backs